

MINUTES OF MEETING
HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

DATE: 29 June 2010

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Conference Room C
Department of Administration

ATTENDANCE:

Council: **Present:** Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), John X. Donahue, Joseph L. Dowling, M.D., John W. Flynn, Maria Gil, Catherine E. Graziano, R.N., Ph.D., Theresa Jeremiah, Amy Lapierre, Steven Lonardo, Thomas M. Madden, Esq., Daniel Orgel, MPA, Denise Panichas, Reverend David Shire (Secretary)

Excused: Raymond C. Coia, Esq., Gary J. Gaube, Wallace Gernt, Robert Hamel, R.N., Robert J. Quigley, D.C (Chair)

Not Present: Robert Ricci, Robert Whiteside

Staff: Valentina D. Adamova, MBA, Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Joseph G. Miller, Esq.

Public: (Attached)

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Time Extension for the Minutes Availability.

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 PM. Minutes of the Health Services Council meeting of 27 April 2010 were adopted as submitted. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of twelve in favor and none opposed (12-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Donahue, Dowling, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Jeremiah, Lapierre, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Shire.

2. General Order of Business

The first item on the agenda was the *Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of BGM Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Comfort Keepers for initial licensure as a Home Care Provider in Greenville*. Staff summarized the application and the deliberations of the Committee on this matter.

A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of thirteen in favor and none opposed (13-0) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval. Those members

voting in favor were: Almeida, Donahue, Dowling, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Jeremiah, Lapierre, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Panichas, Shire.

The next item on the agenda was the *Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of **St. Clare Home** for a new construction, renovation, licensed bed capacity increase, and creation of a social model of care.* Staff read into the record a letter from Elena Nicolella, Medicaid Director, which clarified a previous letter. Staff read into the record a response letter from Mr. Goulet, legal counsel to the applicant, to the Medicaid letter. Staff summarized the application and the deliberations of the Committee on this matter.

Mr. Zimmerman, consultant to the Department, made a presentation to the Council.

Ms. Lapierre noted the availability of 436 nursing beds that have been taken out of service. Ms. Panichas stated that if St. Clare were to close then Newport would lose 47 nursing beds. Ms. Lapierre noted that DHS is supportive of the ‘greenhouse’ model of care and the assisted and independent living components (alternatives to nursing home care).

A motion was made by Sen. Graziano, seconded and passed by a vote of ten in favor, none opposed, one abstention, and two recusals (10-0-1-2) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval. Those members voting in favor were: Donahue, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Jeremiah, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Panichas, Shire. Ms. Lapierre abstained. Ms. Almeida and Mr. Dowling recused.

The next item on the agenda was the *Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of **Rhode Island Hospital** for change in effective control of Wayland Square Surgicare Acquisition, LP d/b/a Wayland Square Surgicare in Providence.* Staff noted the letter from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island. Staff summarized the application and the deliberations of the Committee on this matter.

The applicant made a presentation to the Council. The applicant noted that it needs additional space to perform screening colonoscopies and that using an existing facility is more cost effective than building anew facility.

During the course of the meeting, the Chair announced that a quorum has been lost and that this application will be continued at the next meeting of the Health Services Council.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova, MBA
Health Economics Specialist